“ Yoake ni Furu ”
Chapter Five

HAYAKAWA NOJIKO manga

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RAIN...
RAIN...
RAIN
IS FALLING...
THEY SAY, THOUGH, THAT RAIN MAKES THE GROUND STRONGER...
The humidity has been terrible, though...
DOESN'T LOOK LIKE IT'LL STOP SOON, HUH?
THE RAIN.
DO YOU STILL
HIS HAIR
IS STICKING UP
GO FOR YOUR MORNING RUN IF IT'S RAINING THIS HEAVILY?
THIS IS ACTUALLY NOTHING MUCH.
WELL,
TOMORROW I PROBABLY WON'T.

GOTTA FOCUS ON ACADEMICS FIRST, SINCE EXAMS ARE COMING UP.
Really?!
WELL, NOT THAT THEY'LL BE A PROBLEM FOR ME
BUT I BET YOU'RE GOING TO STRUGGLE UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE, AREN'T YOU?
UGH-!
WOULD YOU MIND HELPING ME STUDY, DAIKI-SENSEI?
HA.
GUESS I HAVE NO CHOICE.
MAKES IT STRONGER, HUH...

Slow but steady wins the race?

夜明けにふる、5

Yoake ni Furu

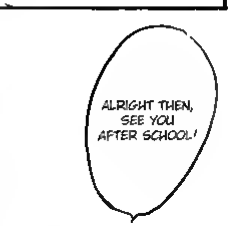
ハヤカワノジコ
Hayakawa Nojiko

nojico's news

"Yozora no Sumikko de." & "Endou-kun no Kansatsu Nikki" on sale now
"Endou-kun no Jikken Note" being serialized in Ihr HertZ

Master Higuchi, please help~!
We're at our limit!!!
Again...
Hey,
What should I do this weekend and how do I do it?!
There's so much material, I don't even know where to start!
Yooo Sudou!
Please explain this to me, teacher! Or just give me the answers!
I swear I'll memorize all of it over the weekend!
DON'T BE STUPID!
THE FIRST SEMESTER WASN'T EVEN THAT HARD!
SIGH
IDK
YOU'VE STILL GOT A FEW DAYS JUST MEMORIZE IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE EVERYTHING
It's impossible, that's why I'm begging you!
Or at least help us guess what the first exam's gonna be about!
Ah,
There aren't enough days!
And what do you mean, It's not hard?!
So irritating!
You'd know, right though?!
LIKE HELL IF I WOULD!
I'LL DO IT!
Not gonna guarantee anything, though.
SUDOU...
AREN'T YOU ALSO GETTING HELP FROM HIGUCHI?
HEY!
You were out the minute you said there's no guarantee
I'M USUALLY A PRETTY GOOD GUESSER, Y'KNOW.
Ehhh?!
THAT DOESN'T SOUND SO REASSURING...
Chk
WELL, HE IS PRETTY SHARP,
BUT HE RELIES ON HIS INSTINCTS TOO MUCH.
That's why he does badly
WELL THEN,

WAIT, YOU GUYS ARE HAVING SPECIAL LESSONS?!
SO UNFAIR! LET ME COME TOO!
No no no! it was a lie!
I didn't say any of that!
CLATTER
ERGH!
WHAT YOU WANNA JOIN IN?
SURE, BUT... I HOPE YOU'RE READY.
EH?
WE'RE GONNA STUDY HARD TIL MORNING. TAKE A BREAK WITH A MORNING RUN, DO MORE CATCH UP CRAMMING AND MEMORISATION. AFTER LUNCH IS RAMMING FORMULAS INTO YOUR BRAINS AND FOR THE SPECIAL COURSE-
EH?!
WHOOSH
What's that?
Are you a Shipper?!
I'm good, thanks!
Ohh
IF YOU CAN DO YOUR OWN GUESSING,
THEN YOU DON'T NEED ANY SPECIAL LESSONS FROM ME, DO YOU,
SUDOU-KUN?
OI--
SUDOU, LET'S GO!
AH.
IDIOT.
MY MOM AND SAKURA WOULD BOTH LOVE TO HAVE YOU OVER
OH, AND,
WOULD IT BE OKAY IF I DROPPED BY YOUR HOUSE LATER?
I'M COMING!
IT'S THIS TIME ALREADY?
CLATTER
Going to another classroom?
Yeah.



This is a story about Sudou Shouta, a high school student who fell in love with his elementary school teacher, Hoshino Higuchi Daiki. He'd watched Shouta all along and thought Shouta and Hoshino were going out. But according to Oomori Ruria, their classmate since elementary school, they're not. ?

OU-
WHAM
-CCHHH
Eh, Hi Higuchi?!
Are you okay?
ABOUT WHAT?
I'M ACTUALLY GLAD THAT IT'S BEEN QUIET
SEE YOU.
AH,
OI!
heh
ARE YOU JEALOUS?
IN ANY CASE,
GLAD TO SEE YOU'RE THE SAME OLD YOU
eh?
BYE.
WAI-
WHAT?
eh?

Is that so..?
But yeah...
Phew-!
GRR
there's no way Oomori-san and Hiraguchi would...
BUT, HIGUCHI,
I HEARD FROM YOUR JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL-MATES THAT
THOSE TWO WENT OUT BEFORE?
Sudou and Oomori-san.
Eh?
Really?
I ACTUALLY ALSO HEARD THAT THEY BROKE UP ALMOST IMMEDIATELY...
WHERE DID YOU EVEN GET THAT IDEA?
You two aren't going out, are you?!
No, you didn't!!
YOUR BRAINS ARE TOO FULL OF ROMANCE!
What kind of relationship do you have with her?!
WE WENT TO THE SAME JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
Didn't I tell you?
Wasn't that Oomori-san from Class 1 just now?!
Wait, Higuchi!
He was shocking!
She's super cute!
HUH?
HOW IS SHE CUTE?!
She's more scary than cute!
HE FOOLED ME AS WELL...
IF YOU'RE SO CONCERNED, JUST ASK ONE OF THEM DIRECTLY.
WELL, IT'S UNDERSTANDABLE IF THEY ONLY WENT OUT FOR A SHORT WHILE.
I SEE
I GUESS IF HIGUCHI DOESN'T KNOW EITHER, IT'S PROBABLY JUST A RUMOR.
WHO KNOWS

NAH, IT DOESN'T BOTHER ME THAT MUCH.
HOSHINO IS
EVEN IF HE AGREED TO HER REQUEST
HE'S ALWAYS
ONLY EVER BEEN
CHASING AFTER HOSHINO.
YEAH, WELL,
MOVING BACK TO THE PRESENT,
SUDOU'S HEAD OVER HEELS FOR KAORU-CHAN NOW, HUH?
"...MORE LIKE FAMILY TO ME."
WHAM

SORRY.
MY HAND SLIPPED.
HI-
HIGUCHI?
DING
DONG
DING
DONG
DING
DONG
ha...
Ahaha—
Yeah, I see...
W-
well then, the bell's rung, so we'll be heading back.
I thought he was gonna break the table.
Yeah, he's really something.
It's 'cause you asked something weird!
Eh, Was it my fault?!
CHK
STAY CALM.
STAY CALM.
FAMILY..
WHAT FAMILY?
STAY CALM
SHUT UP.

kya
kya
YOU'LL END UP A MEMBER OF THE HIGUCHI FAMILY IF YOU KEEP ON DOING THIS!
AND WHILE YOU SAY THAT,
CRACK
DO YOU EVEN GET IT?!
And then
this one
I get it!
BUT I'M STILL TALKING TO SHOU NII-CHAN!
ehhhh!
C'MON, SAKURA,
GO AND GET THE BATH READY!
Well, no, but
I mean
I MEAN, IT'S NOT THAT I WANT IT TO BE, IT WAS JUST AN OBJECTIVE OBSERVATION!
SHAKE
SHAKE
AH-
THIS DEFINITELY HAS TO BE MORE INTIMATE THAN HE GETS WITH HOSHINO
yeah...
THEN, SAKURA-CHAN,
BUT WE'RE STUDYING TOGETHER AS WELL!
SHOU-CHAN CAME HERE TO STUDY, SO DON'T DISTURB HIM!
DON'T "EHHH" ME.

AW, WHAT'S SO WRONG ABOUT IT?
step
step
step
DON'T JUST SET THINGS UP LIKE THAT...
Oi,
OKAY!
I'll go get ready!
My, My~
SORRY TO BOTHER YOU EVERY TIME, SHOU-CHAN!
SAKURA SEEMS LIKE SHE'D LOVE TO SPEND EVEN A LITTLE MORE TIME WITH YOU!
THWACK
KGH
COME STUDY TOGETHER WITH ME AND DAIKI!
ONCE YOU'RE DONE WITH TAKING A BATH,
We'll wait in Daiki Nii-chan's room
WHY, AUNTIE, YOU SAY THE NICEST THINGS~
Eh
BUT REALLY,
IT'S GREAT THAT SAKURA'S SUCH A GOOD GIRL WHEN SHOU-CHAN COMES OVER.
Even small things like this.
Uhhh, I want to study though...
C'mon Daiki, don't just stand there sit down here.
IT ISN'T JUST SWEET TALK, YOU KNOW~!
That kid-
There's a fantasy war
SHE WANTS TO SHOW JUST HER GOOD SIDE
SHE DOES ALL KINDS OF THINGS SHE NORMALLY DOESN'T WANT TO HELP OUT WITH WHEN SHOU-CHAN'S HERE
I'd be really happy if you took Sakura as your bride, Shou-chan~
PFFFT
EH-
tuuuh?!

What are you talking about, mom?!
WHAT'S WITH YOU? IT'S NOT TOTALLY OUT OF THE QUESTION.
Right, Shou-chan?
EH,
IT IS!
T-this is a little sudden
WHY ARE YOU GETTING WORKED UP, DAIKI?
IF IT REALLY HAPPENS YOU'LL BE BROTHERS-IN-LAW. YOU'D ENJOY THAT, RIGHT?
Don't say stupid things like that!
MY, DAIKI,
snork
ARE YOU AFRAID THAT SAKURA MIGHT STEAL SHOU-CHAN AWAY FROM YOU?
WHAT-

After all this time, why are you saying this now?!
THIS OLD HAG!
JUST...
WAI-
EH-
YOU KNOW, DAIKI HAS REALLY LIKED YOU SINCE A LONG TIME AGO!
MY, MY, THIS BOY...
WHEN HE WAS SAKURA'S AGE, HE'D TALK ABOUT SHOU-CHAN EVERY SINGLE DAY!
OI-!
Shut up already!
Mom-!
I'm done getting ready!
I'm taking a bath now.
Onii-chan's face is red has he already had a bath?
Eh?
Please, stop it already!!!
She's finally asleep
NOW, THEN...
SLIDE
SINCE SAKURA'S BEEN PUT TO BED,
WE CAN FINALLY GET DOWN TO SOME SERIOUS STUDYING...

SENSEI, I FEEL LIKE I COULD GO TO BED MYSELF...
DENIED!
I'VE EVEN CANCELED TOMORROW MORNING'S RUN,
SO I'LL GLADLY KEEP YOU COMPANY FOR THIS SLEEPLESS NIGHT COURSE
UGHHH
An unwelcome savour
IT'S NOT THAT HE'S BAD AT THIS...
He ranked pretty high during the mid terms, after all
AND,
THE FACT THAT HE'S ASKING ME, NOT HOSHINO,
KINDA MAKES ME
THE WINNER, RIGHT?
OI,
DAIKI?
WHAT'S WITH YOU?
DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE GETTING SLEEPY TOO
AH, SORRY!
HE'S CLOSE
SO, WHAT DON'T YOU GET?

DID YOU
REALLY LIKE ME THAT MUCH?
W-
LET'S SEE...
IS IT TRUE?
WHAT AUNTIE SAID EARLIER,
WHAT?!

I DO

DAMN IT!
I knew this was how it was gonna end up!
I REALLY LIKE YOU TOO NOW, DAIKI!
I SEE, I SEE!
SLAP
I used to reeeally hate you thought-!
Are you that type? Who picks on the kid they like?
WHY, WEREN'T YOU A CUTE ONE!
pfft-
DARK PAST
TORTURE...
CRACK
Please stop poking me where it hurts-
The good old days-
AND YOU STARTED THEM EVERY TIME.
WE REALLY HAD A LOT OF FIGHTS BACK THEN, HUH-?
BUT, WELL,
Please stop bringing up old stories...
C'MON, DON'T GET SHY ON ME NOW!
shut up...
WHAT DID YOU HAVE TO SAY ABOUT ME EVERY DAY?
HEY, HEY,
Do your work get your hands moving!
BUT, Y'KNOW,
I NEVER THOUGHT THAT WE'D GET TO BE
THE WAY WE ARE RIGHT NOW

"He's gonna help you out with your studies!"
"That bully over there's gonna grow into a macho nerd, so he's got some hope for the future!"
SHALL WE ADD THE MORNING RUN BACK INTO THE COURSE?
Yes we're studying we're studying!
Sorry, that was a lie!

IF I COULD VISIT MYSELF BACK THEN, I REALLY GOTTA TELL HIM.
"ONE DAY, DAIKI'S GONNA BE SOMEONE YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO LIVE WITHOUT!"

WHEN YOU SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT
THERE'S NOTHING I CAN SAY IN RESPONSE
DAMMIT.

OI,
SUDOU.

THE RAIN'S STOPPED
I'M NOT THAT SLEEPY, SO MAYBE I'LL GO OUT FOR A RUN MYSELF
THIS GUY DOESN'T WAKE UP ONCE HE FALLS ASLEEP, HUH?
Nnnah.
Just a little longer..
ZZZ
Doesn't work.
C'MON
Nah...
IF YOU WANT TO SLEEP, USE THE FUTON
mm
ehh
NO SENSE OF CAUTION.
WELL, THAT'S JUST THE WAY HE IS.
STUPID FACE

I'VE ALWAYS LIKED YOU
UGHH
YOU SIDE-STEPPED IT SO EASILY.
BUT,
ZZZZZ
GRRRR
AND ON TOP OF THAT
Mmph?
Nnah??
SAYING "I LIKE YOU"
JUST LIKE THAT.

"...MORE LIKE FAMILY TO ME..."
EVEN THOUGH I'VE TOLD HIM THAT I LIKE HIM,
AND HE'S TOLD ME HE LIKES ME,
SOMETHING IS WRONG
SOMETHING ISN'T ENOUGH
EVEN THOUGH WE'RE THIS CLOSE
DAMNIT,
WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO...?

Hayakawa Nojiko

These two are out of step with the season since it's now the beginning of the year, but please look forward to them the rest of the year as well